

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 USIA-06 /016 W

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R 201450Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4336

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0072

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SF, WA

SUBJECT: PARTIAL IV GRANTS FOR SWANUF GROUP

REF: STATE 009695O

1. POST CONCURS IN ISSUANCE OF PARTIAL IV GRANTS TO SWANUF GROUP.

2. SWANUF IS, OF COURSE, RELATIVELY INSIGNIFICANT POLITICAL ORGANIZATION IN NAMIBIA. UNTIL BRANCH OFFICE ESTABLISHED IN TERRITORY LAST YEAR, SWANUF HAD EXISTED ENTIRELY ABROAD SINCE ITS FORMATION IN 1965 BY EXILES MBURUMBA KERINA AND NATHANIAL MBAEVA. BOTH ABROAD AND IN NAMIBIA IT HAS HEAVY MBANDERO (EASTERN HERERO) BIAS, ALTHOUGH A FEW DAMARAS AND NAMAS ARE MEMBERS.

3. MUNJUKU, MAHERERO AND KARUAERA ALL OPPOSE CHIEF CLEMENS KAPUUNO'S CLAIM TO LEADERSHIP OF HEREROS, ALTHOUGH TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE KAPUUNO DOES HAVE SUPPORT OF MAJORITY OF HEREROS. MUNJUKU AND KARUAERA ARE, NEVERTHELESS, NO LESS COMMITTED TO NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE THAN IS KAPUUNO. KARUAERA IS DESCRIBED BY RELIABLE SOURCE AS AN "ARDENT NATIONALIST" WHO FELL OUT WITH KAPUUNO OVER QUESTION OF CHIEFTANSHIP. CHIEF MUNJUKU, LEADER OF THE MBANDEROS, ACCEPTED APPOINTMENT TO PRIME MINISTER'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON SWA, BUT RESIGNED BECAUSE SAG NOT RECEPTIVE TO HIS DEMANDS FOR INDEPENDENCE FOR THE TERRITORY. MAHERERO HAS REPLACED FREDERICK 11 AS PRETENDER

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TO TJAMUAHA-MAHERERO "THRONE," BUT WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT

HE HAS SAG BACKING, AS FREDERICK DID.

4. BECAUSE THE THREE REPRESENT MBANDERO POINT OF VIEW AMONG
HEREROS AND, WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF MAHARERO, HAVE BEEN
VOCAL IN OPPOSITION TO SOUTH AFRICAN CONTROL OF NAMIBIA, WE
SUPPORT ISSUANCE OF PARTIAL GRANT. POST WOULD DRAW ON THE
\$12,000 SET ASIDE IN OUR CPP FOR NAMIBIAN EXCHANGES.
HURD

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